

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Moore

DATE: 9/12/75

FROM : [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: CURT GENTRY
PLAN TO WRITE BOOK
CONCERNING J. EDGAR HOOVER

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Director Sec'y _____

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For record purposes, Robert E. Wick, who retired as an Assistant Director in 1967 and now is a Vice President of Pan American World Airlines in New York, has contacted us to advise that an author named Curt Gentry is beginning research on a book concerning the late Director J. Edgar Hoover.

According to Mr. Wick, Gentry telephoned him in New York this week and requested an appointment to interview Mr. Wick. Gentry stated that he is beginning research on a book concerning Mr. Hoover, which book Gentry said will require two years of work and, therefore, will not be published before 1977.

Gentry described himself to Mr. Wick as the author of a book concerning the "Manson Family." (This is the book entitled "Helter Skelter: The True Story of the Manson Murders" on which Gentry collaborated with Vincent Bugliosi.) Gentry also told Mr. Wick that [REDACTED] is assisting him in his research for the Hoover book and that he (Gentry) [REDACTED] will be in Washington in about a week to contact Washington-area individuals concerning Mr. Hoover.

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INFORMATION IN BUFILES:

Bufiles contain no information identifiable with Gentry. The 1974 edition of the "Paperback Books in Print" lists Gentry as the author of four books, including "Madames of San Francisco" and two others whose titles indicate they relate to California.

[REDACTED] obviously is identical with [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] journalist born in [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] of [REDACTED]

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- 1 - Mr. Moore
- 1 - Mrs. Metcalf
- 1 - Telephone Room

GWG:jam (7)

5 SEP 30 1975

CONTINUED - OVER

CORRESPONDENCE

OCT 21 1975

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Moore

DATE: 10/7/75

FROM :

SUBJECT: CURT GENTRY
PLAN TO WRITE BOOK
CONCERNING J. EDGAR HOOVER

BACKGROUND: *address: 1429 Keaney*
San Francisco, Calif.

By memorandum dated September 12, 1975, I advised you of information which had been received from former Assistant Director Robert E. Wick indicating that author Curt Gentry has begun work on a book concerning the late Director J. Edgar Hoover, which book will not be published before 1977. My memorandum pointed out that Gentry is not identifiable in Bufiles; however, that he is coauthor with Vincent Bugliosi of the book entitled "Helter Skelter: The True Story of the Manson Murders" which has received extensive publicity since the arrest of Lynette Fromme (a Manson follower) for the September 5 assassination attempt on President Ford.

CURRENT DEVELOPMENT:

Gentry visited FBIHQ on 10/1/75 to (1) leave Mr. Kelley an autographed copy of his Manson book, and (2) discuss his plans to write the book regarding J. Edgar Hoover.

Gentry stated that his book on Mr. Hoover will deal extensively with the FBI, and that it is his intention to write a "balanced" book which will present "both the pros and cons" of Mr. Hoover's long career as Director of the FBI. The book is to be published by W. W. Norton and Company, publisher of the book about the Manson family.

Gentry has devoted several weeks to reading books and major articles about the FBI and Mr. Hoover. He also has talked to [redacted] and Ovid Demaris, both of whom are completing books about the FBI and/or Mr. Hoover. In addition, he has

- Enclosure - Sent 10-15-75 *edm*
- 1 - Mr. Moore - Enclosure
 - 1 - Mr. Mintz - Enclosure
 - 1 - Mr. Mooney - Enclosure
 - 1 - Mr. Walsh - Enclosure
 - 1 - Mrs. Metcalf - Enclosure
 - 1 - Telephone Room - Enclosure

GWG:jam (10)

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Director Sec'y _____

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REC-9 62-12188-12839

DE-18
V-15

62-116916-X1
22 OCT 21 1975

RESEARCH SECTION



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

Mr. [] to Mr. Moore Memorandum
RE: CURT GENTRY, PLAN TO WRITE BOOK CONCERNING J. EDGAR HOOVER

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contacted several former FBI officials, including the national office of the Society of Former Special Agents -- and some of these individuals, including those at the offices of the Ex-Agents Society, have told him that they would agree to be interviewed or to furnish other cooperation only if Mr. Gentry were receiving the cooperation of FBIHQ.

In response to a question as to areas of FBI assistance he has in mind, Gentry briefly advised as follows:

(1) He would like to see Mr. Kelley very briefly to tell him of his plan to write this book. (Thereby, he will be in a position to tell former Agents who are prospective interviewees that he has personally told Mr. Kelley about the book.) He has requested this meeting at Mr. Kelley's convenience sometime between November 1 and November 15.

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(2) In a recent conversation with former SA Charles Appel, who EOD in 1924 and retired in 1948, Gentry was told that in approximately 1926 or 1927 Appel and former Assistant Director Harold Nathan prepared an extensive paper concerning the early years of the Bureau of Investigation. If this still is available, he would like to see it.

(3) He would like to see the Bureau's new Tour Route, as well as to tour the FBI Academy at Quantico. (Arrangements were made for Gentry and his research assistant, [] to be conducted on a Bureau tour on October 2.) (Bufiles contain no information identifiable with []) *Va, Calif.*

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(4) He would like to review the annual Appropriations Testimony of Mr. Hoover and other FBI Directors over the years. In addition, he would like to review all past issues of the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin.

Gentry said that he will return to San Francisco in a few days, where his address is 1429 Kearny, Apartment 5, San Francisco 94133, (Phone: 415-989-2878). He will return to Washington for several days in November and then, approximately the first of 1976, will move here to devote an extended period of time to the J. Edgar Hoover book.

OBSERVATIONS:

At this point, Gentry's requests primarily involve (1) a brief meeting with Mr. Kelley, (2) review of a paper

Mr. [REDACTED] to Mr. Moore Memorandum b6
RE: CURT GENTRY, PLAN TO WRITE BOOK CONCERNING J. EDGAR HOOVER. b7C

regarding the FBI's very early history which may or may not still exist, (3) a tour of the Bureau (which has been given him) and a tour of Quantico, and (4) access to Appropriations Testimony and Law Enforcement Bulletins, which are strictly public source in nature.

His requests seem reasonable and do not appear to involve Privacy Act or Freedom of Information Act considerations.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

(1) That the attached letter be sent Gentry (a) thanking him for the autographed copy of the Manson book, (b) advising him that public-source type information will be furnished in response to his requests for data for his J. Edgar Hoover book, and (c) informing him (with regard to his request to see Mr. Kelley in November) that Mr. Kelley is unable to schedule additional appointments at this time.

(2) That the External Affairs Division handle directly with Gentry reasonable requests he may have for public-source type material in connection with his book, including his request for a tour of the FBI Academy and access to past issues of the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin and Appropriations Testimony.

OK [signature] TJJ [signature] M/H

October 8, 1975

Mr. Curt Gentry
Apartment 5
1429 Kearny
San Francisco, California 94133

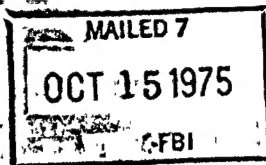
Dear Mr. Gentry:

Please accept my sincere appreciation for the copy of "Helter Skelter: The True Story of the Manson Murders" which you so thoughtfully autographed to me.

Your plans to write a book regarding the late Director J. Edgar Hoover have been brought to my attention; and I was glad to learn of your intention to maintain contact with our External Affairs Division with respect to matters wherein you feel the FBI can be of assistance.

In this regard, I am certain you will understand that we will be limited almost entirely to public-source-type data in responding to your requests for information for the book.

With respect to your request to see me next month, my schedule remains so uncertain in the weeks immediately ahead that I am unable to make additional commitments at this time. However, I understand that you plan a prolonged stay in Washington while working on your book; and in view of this, it might be possible to arrange a mutually convenient appointment at some future date.



Sincerely yours,

Clarence M. Kelley

Clarence M. Kelley
Director

- 1 - San Francisco
- 1 - Mr. Moore (detached)
- 1 - Mr. Mintz (detached)
- 1 - Mr. Mooney (detached)
- 1 - Mr. Walsh (detached)
- 1 - Mrs. Metcalf (detached)
- 1 - Telephone Room (detached)

NOTE: See [redacted] to Mr. Moore Memorandum dated 10/7/75
Re: CURT GENTRY, PLAN TO WRITE BOOK CONCERNING J. EDGAR HOOVER.

GWG:jan (12/19/83)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

REC-45 62-116916-X2
62-12188-12840

OCT 21 1975

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
REC'D

OCT 22 1975

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- Dep. AD Adm.
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Curt Gentry

1429 Kearny Street #5
San Francisco, CA 94133

October 27, 1975

Mr. Clarence M. Kelley
 Director
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 United States Department of Justice
 Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Mr. Kelley:

Thank you for your letter of October 8, 1975, regarding my book Helter Skelter and my plans to write a full, balanced biography of the late Director J. Edgar Hoover.

I look forward to discussing the latter with you at some mutually convenient time in the future. My current plans call for returning to Washington in January for perhaps a month, and of making frequent trips there during 1976.

One of the highlights of my recent trip was the tour of the new FBI Building which Mr. [redacted] so thoughtfully arranged. I will certainly maintain contact with your External Affairs Division, and will be most appreciative of any help they can give me.

Best wishes,

Curt Gentry

Curt Gentry

Copy made for Tele. Rm.

EX-110

11/3/75 gmd

REC-30

~~62-12188-12842~~
 62-116916-X3

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PERS. REC. UNIT

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CORRESPONDENCE

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Moore *M/12*

DATE: 1-23-76

FROM :

SUBJECT: CURT GENTRY

REQUEST TO SEE MR. KELLEY
WHILE IN WASHINGTON, D. C.
FEBRUARY 8-24, 1976 *clif*

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BACKGROUND:

Curt Gentry is coauthor with Vincent Bugliosi of the book entitled "Helter Skelter: The True Story of the Manson Murders" which received extensive publicity last fall following the September 5th arrest of Lynette Fromme (a Manson follower) for attempting to assassinate President Ford.

Gentry visited FBIHQ last October, at which time he (1) left an autographed copy of his Manson book for Mr. Kelley, and (2) discussed with the External Affairs Division his plans to write a book about the long career of J. Edgar Hoover as Director. He said the Hoover book would be a "balanced" work which would present "both the pros and cons." Gentry stated he had contacted several former FBI officials, including the national office of the Society of Former Special Agents, and that some of these individuals told him they would agree to be interviewed or to furnish other cooperation only if Gentry were receiving the cooperation of FBIHQ.

During his October, 1975, visit, Gentry also asked if it would be possible for Mr. Kelley to see him during another visit he planned to make to Washington between November 1 and 15, 1975.

By letter dated October 8, 1975, Mr. Kelley (1) thanked Gentry for the autographed copy of "Helter Skelter"; (2) told Gentry because of his schedule it was impossible to make additional appointments -- but that "it might be possible to arrange a mutually convenient appointment at some future

- 1 - Mr. Moore
- 1 - Mrs. Metcalf
- 1 - Telephone Room

V-15

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EX 104

14 FEB 12 1976

GWG:slr (6)

57 MAR 2 1976

CONTINUED OVER

RESEARCH SECTION

[redacted] to Moore memo
RE: CURT GENTRY

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date"; and (3) encouraged Gentry to maintain contact with the External Affairs Division, noting that "we will be limited almost entirely to public-source-type data in responding to your requests for information for the book."

CURRENT DEVELOPMENT:

Gentry, who lives in San Francisco, has now advised that he plans to be in Washington from February 8 through February 24, 1976, and that he would like to see Mr. Kelley sometime during that period.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

(1) That if Mr. Kelley's schedule of commitments permits, he designate a time between February 8 and February 24, 1976, when he can see author Curt Gentry.

(2) That this memorandum be returned to the Research Section so that Gentry can be appropriately advised.

OK

↑
Done. Confirmed
with Gentry
1/29/76. GWS

SAC, San Francisco (62-0)

1-30-76

Director, FBI

CURT GENTRY

AUTHOR OF FORTHCOMING BOOK
REGARDING J. EDGAR HOOVER
RESEARCH (EXTERNAL AFFAIRS)

Reurairtel dated January 20, 1976, and captioned
"Alan Belmont, Former Assistant Director, Information
Concerning."

For the information of your office, Curt Gentry, who now resides at 1061 Francisco Street, San Francisco, California 94109, visited FBIHQ on October 1, 1975, and discussed with the External Affairs Division his plans to write a book concerning the late J. Edgar Hoover. Mr. Gentry stated that this would be a "balanced" book which would present both "the pros and cons" of Mr. Hoover's long career as Director.

During that visit, Mr. Gentry did not see either Associate Director Callahan or me. He did, however, leave a copy of the book "Helter Skelter: The True Story of the Manson Murders," of which he is coauthor, that he had autographed to me. I wrote Mr. Gentry on October 8, 1975, to thank him for the book and to advise that I had been told of his plans to write a book concerning Mr. Hoover. A copy of that October 6, 1975, letter was sent to your office.

Mr. Gentry has contacted FBIHQ again to advise that he plans to be in Washington from February 8 to 24, 1976; and in response to his request to see me, I have scheduled an appointment with him on February 10th.

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1 - Mr. Moore

GWG:slr (6)

EX-111

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SRC'D *125*
SER *12*
REQ *12*

568A Greenwich Street
San Francisco, Ca. 94133
(415) 986-5194
August 13, 1990

[Redacted]
Historian
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Ninth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20535

b6
b7C

Dear *[Redacted]*

Thank you for taking time out to have lunch with me. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting you and hearing about your book. Only later did I realize that I'd neglected to give you my address and telephone number. I would like very much to be on your correspondence list.

The photo search went very well. I found everything I needed, with three exceptions and I wonder if you could help with these?

(1) A photo of the J. Edgar Hoover Building, from the Pennsylvania Avenue side; (2) a photo of the Department of Justice Building, also from Pennsylvania Avenue; and the photo of young Hoover as a cadet which appears in Richard Gid Powers's Secrecy and Power, all of which I've seen credited to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Also, a research question: who was Director Hoover's chauffeur in New York City? I have a couple names but am not sure whether either or both is right.

Many thanks for any help you can give me.

Best wishes,

Curt Gentry
Curt Gentry

62-116916-2

SEP 21 1990

Card response 8/27/90

IRM GRAF
A

Enclosures: (5)

Photos (4)

1. J. Edgar Hoover building
2. Door Entrance 1005
3. U.S. Dept. of Justice Bldg.
4. J. Edgar Hoover - Cadet
5. Secrecy and Power, Richard Gid Powers, p. 313

To file
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFS.

CURT GENTRY
568A GREENWICH STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 94133



HISTORIAN
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
NINTH STREET AND PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE
WASHINGTON D.C. 20535

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